



# THE CURRENT

Volume 20 Issue 4



Suits, Ties, and Galore

TRCC Winter Ball Recap

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Annual Trip

Editorial Spread

The President and Social Media



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# Suits, Ties, and Dresses Galore

All this and more at the TRCC Winter Ball

Writing and Photography by George Simones  
And Cheryl Gibson

After attending the Three Rivers 4th Annual Winter Ball, I have experienced a whole new perspective of the school as a whole.

It is common knowledge to most who attend Three Rivers, that it is a school which strives to make a higher education accessible to as many people as possible. The cost of an entire Associate degree's classes at Three Rivers is less than the cost of a single semester at many schools throughout the country.

"I have a lot of titles that I perform on campus, but the most important title to me is being a student" - Benjamin Crowley, a 2016-2017 scholarship recipient and Treasurer of the Student Government Association. He gave a phenomenal speech during dinner about why scholarships are so important.

"When I faced uncertainty in 2016-2017, I applied for an academic scholarship and I was awarded a full tuition, which was amazing because I was excited for any little handout that I could get. It was the biggest blessing in disguise, the security of knowing that school was paid for." Benjamin's message shows the importance and weight that scholarships carry for many students. Seeing the sheer number of people who came together to support the funding of scholarships for students was an amazing sight to behold.



TRCC President Mary Ellen Jukoski thanking the organizers and attendees.



Meghan Norcia saving the moment.

My first impressions of the TRCC Winter Ball are made within moments after walking through the doors. Lights, Camera, Action! A luxurious red carpet lines the entrance to the Hollywood themed event taking place inside. Needless to say, the Winter Ball is a wonderland of students, faculty, staff, and more. Within minutes of entering the ball, students and attendees filled the air with an aura of celebration. There was also a photo booth, which was very popular amongst the attendees.

Delicious meals ranged from marvelous crab cake hors d'oeuvres to a wonderful dinner of beef, chicken, or eggplant. After dinner, the dance floor was abuzz with lights and energy. The Hollywood theme only helps to exemplify the energy and excitement. It was hard not to have a smile on your face in this environment: truly a night to remember. To top off the evening, every attendee was given a delicious bag of kettle corn and a miniature Oscar. A simple, yet fitting gesture to send off the guests.



It's the event of the year that brings together students, staff, and administration together to support TRCC success by funding scholarships." – Was the response Rhonda Spaziani, Director of Student Programs, gave when asked to describe the TRCC Winter Ball in one sentence. Scholarships are funded at the TRCC Winter Ball in a multitude of ways, however the silent auction of different themed baskets seemed to attract the most attention from attendees. From gift card baskets to vouchers for a day of fishing, there is an assortment that suits the needs of practically every type of person. The bids kept getting higher and higher, it was an amazing sight to see.

Three Rivers Community College Business Department Instructor, James O'Shea, was asked to describe the Winter Ball in one sentence, to which he replied, "The Winter Ball is a great night of giving to support future leaders." Professors, students, friends, and family working together to benefit Three Rivers and its community is truly a wonderful sight to see.

The Three Rivers 4th annual Winter Ball was a good example of the phrase, "hard work pays off". On the back of the event pamphlet, student programs left a great message to thank their sponsors and everyone who helped contribute. "Student Programs would like to thank everyone who donated and contributed to tonight's event. Your generous support of this event provides scholarship opportunities to students in need." This was a great way to send off the attendees and remind everyone what this night is really about. The TRCC Winter Ball is a great way for the community to come together and work toward a cause that benefits people who are trying to pursue their goals in life.

Excitement is everywhere you look at the Three Rivers Winter Ball. A wonderful night was capped off with an amazing three-layer ice cream cake. This was truly a great way to leave a sweet taste on the pallet of the attendees as the last impressions of the night. I couldn't have asked for a more picture-perfect ending to a phenomenal night. Students should make a point of attending the TRCC Winter Ball every year; this is not an event that anyone in the community should miss. Thank you very much to Student Programs and everyone who assisted in making this event so special.



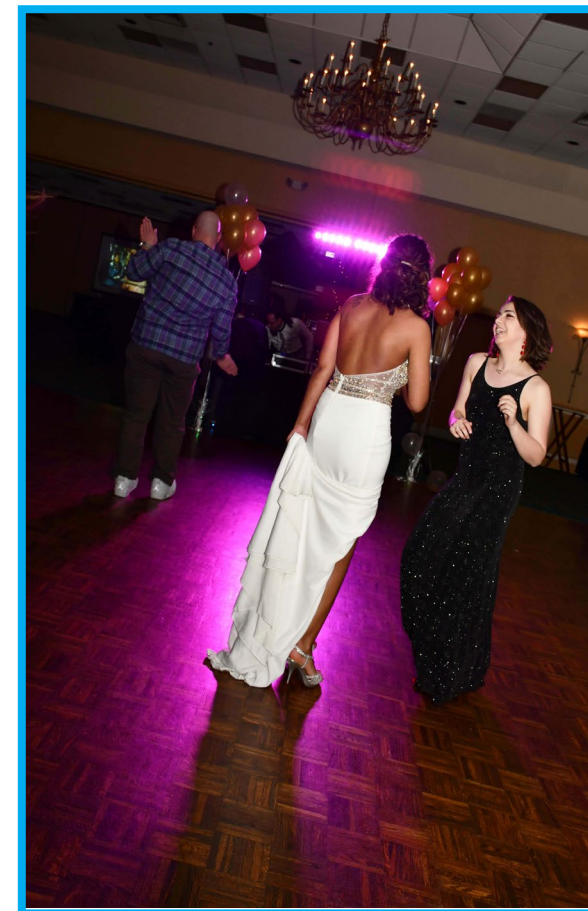
**Couple having a great time.**



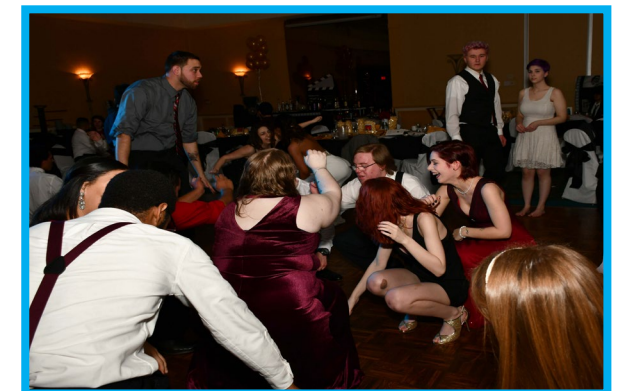
**Everyone looked fashionable and fabulous.**



**Professor and Mrs. Muenzner.**



**Kenzie Costello and friend.**







# Europe Exposure



## Students Eagerly Await Annual Journey

Writing by Cheryl Gibson

You won't find any flyers on the walls of the campus for this trip, because it's never been advertised, yet spots have filled quickly every year, for twenty-five years.

Over spring break, a group of students and members of the Three Rivers community are led by Mark Comeau, Professor of Architecture and Construction. They enjoy exploring different European destinations and a great learning experience. Education First, an intercultural exchange company arranges the itinerary, lodgings, transportation and local tour guides.

The group leaves the Friday before spring break and will be touring for ten days. This year they are going to Portugal and Spain. This is not a tourist itinerary. Comeau explains that, "The minute we land we are learning." Each day of the journey is jam packed, from seven in the morning until seven at night, visiting historical sites and going to museums.

The annual trip is a rare opportunity to study Europe's cultural and historical destinations and get a view of structures and how other cultures developed and informs the travelers view of architecture. Professor Comeau, says of the outcome, "I've brought different kids back to their parents. It has a profound impact on their maturity."

Professor Comeau explains how the learning experience is designed to tie the place, with its culture from the past, to their culture now, to how it impacts all of us. This is accomplished through the study of their architecture, how they treat their environment, innovations, politics and socioeconomics which can be tied to that culture, and why people come to visit and study it.



**The group in front of St. Peter's at the Vatican.**

This travel-to-learn opportunity is available to students and the Three Rivers community. Comeau says he decided at the onset of the program to include others who wanted to go. There are students, parents, grandparents and siblings. He has had faculty from high schools and other colleges too. Comeau explains the benefits of a diverse group "I've had many, many people from all corners, which makes the group really dynamic and it really helps stabilize the group."

Some go more than once. Michael Ruggeri, an architecture major went on two trips so far and will be going this year too. He's already explored Italy, Germany and the Netherlands. He says, "The most important thing I learned from going on these trips is experiencing the foreign cultures firsthand and improving my own knowledge and understanding of how they function. There is only so much you can learn from reading before you have to take the next step and immerse yourself for the full effect."



**Spanish Steps in Rome.**





**The Parthenon on the Acropolis in Athens Greece.**



**The windmills on the Greek Island of Mykonos.**

Professor Comeau started the annual trips twenty-five years ago. The first trip he planned, 45 students signed up immediately. Comeau recalls, “I was floored, and they weren’t all mine. So that was it, after that, I said obviously there’s a need for this.” Word of mouth is the only advertising ever needed. Students who take classes with Professor Comeau, are the first to hear about it and they tell their friends and family.

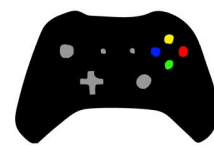


**Students in the Roman Colosseum.**

photographs courtesy of Mark Comeau  
and Plxabay



# Looking For A Pause In Your Day? The Video Game Club has the Perfect Power - Up for you.



The Three Rivers Community College Gamer Club hosted their first LAN party of the semester on March 2, 2018.

Writing and Photography by Ashley Hanson

Looking for a place to eat, socialize, and level-up your gaming skills for a few hours? Look no further than the Video Game Club LAN party. Co-presidents, Joseph Victorino and Byrnes Berglund, say this event is typically run twice a semester and is always a big hit.

A LAN party is when people gather together and connect their devices to a local area network (LAN) in order to engage in multiplayer games via different consoles. While this particular party wasn't networked, there were still plenty of consoles, PCs and card games available.

On one 70-inch TV, students rocked out on special guitar-shaped controllers to Bohemian Rhapsody, while on the other side of the room students engaged in a strategic game of Magic: The Gathering.

Whether it was a console, PC, or deck of strategic-based cards, everyone was equipped with a game and the air was thick with laughter and comradery. That's the feeling Victorino and Berglund aim to achieve through their club's events.



**PC games are a common sight at TRCC LAN parties.**



**Three students play an intense battle arcade style fighting game while others watch on.**

Don't have a console, computer, or card game? No problem! Victorino says come anyway, "we encourage the sharing of games, that's the purpose of a LAN party".

The Video Game Club has run LAN events in the past and they hope to continue to run them moving forward. They also host a gaming tournament every year.

This year, the tournament will be held in the beginning of May and competitors will be challenged to a game of Super Smash Brother 4. In past years the top three players won an Amazon gift card ranging in value of \$15 - \$50.

Last year 14 students from TRCC and other colleges attended the tournament. They paired up and challenged each other to a game of Super Smash Brothers until a winning duo emerged. Randy Michaud, a TRCC student who attended, said "once you get Super Smash Brothers started, you can't stop".

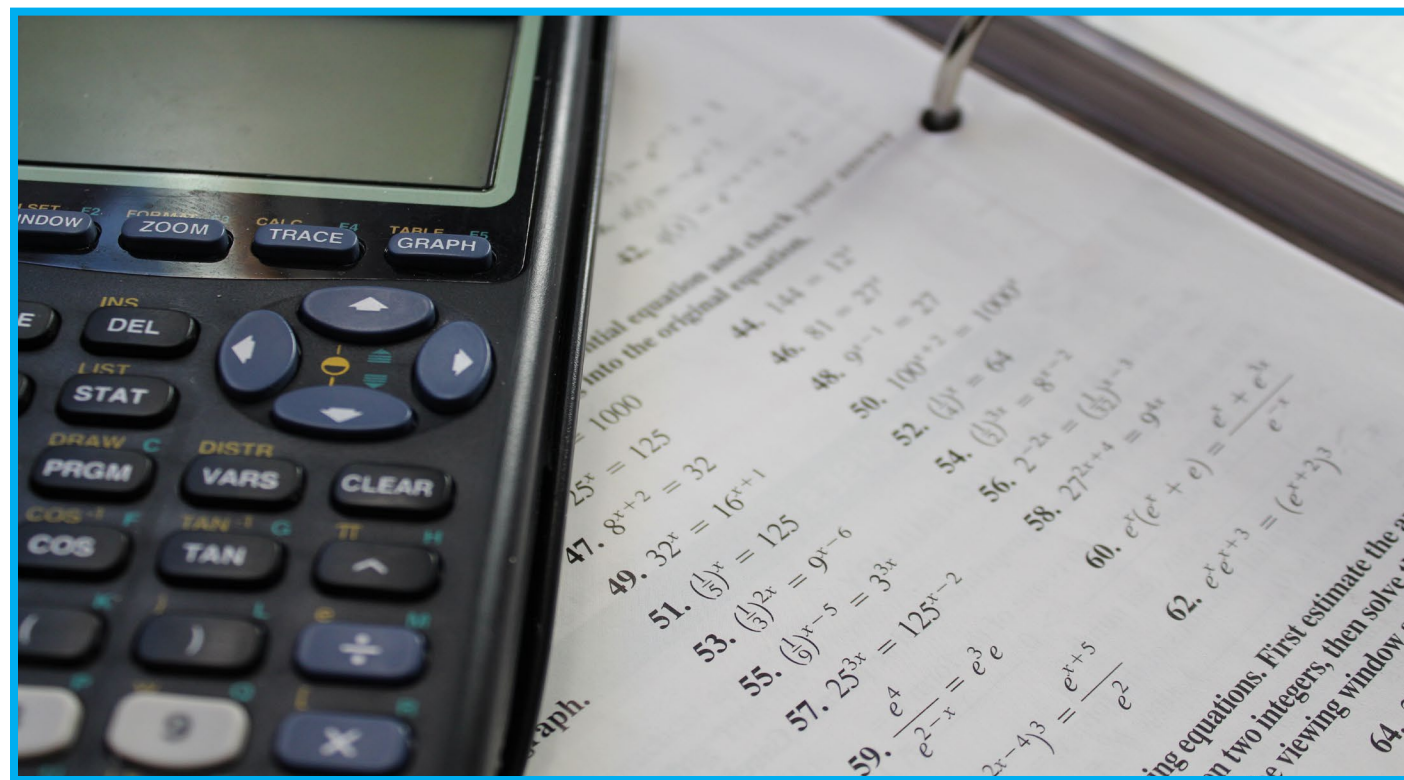
This year, Berglund believes there will be more competitors. Tournament details will be posted on Surge as soon as they are finalized.

In the meantime, keep an eye out for the next LAN party invitation on Surge. If you're still looking for a pause in your week, the Video Game Club meets every Wednesday 1 PM – 3 PM in Room F-205. Stop in, grab a controller, and take a break from your studies for a couple of hours.



## Help, I've Fallen Behind and I Can't Get My Grade Up!

Writing and Photography by Abby Moran



### • Make Good Use of the Syllabus Due Dates

A lot of professors will put the due dates somewhere and most of the times these due dates can be found right on your syllabus! Use it to see what sort of projects you could possibly get ahead on so that you will not have to worry about as many things.

### • Treat Yourself

Instead of simply studying with index cards and stressing – make a reward system! Grab your favorite candy and allow yourself a piece for every correct answer when you're studying. It makes studying much more enjoyable in the long run.

### • Make Good Use of the Syllabus Due Dates

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### • Priorities Come First.

Make a list of all the assignments that you're worried about handing in on time. Start by ranking them based on the due date – from closest due date to farthest. From there you can highlight which ones will take you the longest or are the most difficult. It'll be a little easier to see where to start from there!



Writing and Photography by Catalina Anzola

## Recipe 1

**Chicken Tortilla Soup in the SlowCooker:**  
A healthy and gluten free dinner made in the slow cooker that is easy to make and can be thrown in all together.

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook Time: 6 hours

Serves: 8 servings

### Ingredients:

1 ½ chicken breast  
16 oz. jar salsa  
5 cups chicken broth  
1 tbsp. cumin  
1 tsp. chili powder  
1 tsp. paprika  
1 ½ tsp. salt  
½ tsp. pepper  
¼ tsp. garlic powder  
1/8 - 1/4 tsp. cayenn pepper  
1 - 15 oz. can black beans (rinsed and drained)  
1 - 15 oz. can whole kernel corn (drained)  
3 tbsp. lime juice



### Instructions:

1. Pour the chicken broth and salsa into the slow cooker.
2. Place the chicken breasts in the slow cooker.
3. Combine cumin, chili powder, paprika, salt, pepper, garlic powder and cayenne pepper in a small bowl. Mix all together.
4. Add seasonings, beans, corn, and lemon juice to the slow cooker. Stir liquid, cover, and cook for 6 -8 hours on low (or 4 to 6 on low).
5. 30 minutes before end of cooking time, shred the chicken. Continue to cook for last 30 minutes.
6. Serve chicken tortilla soup with tortilla chips, sour cream, cilantro, avocado, and lime slice.

Enjoy.

## Recipe 2

**Chicken Burrito Bowl in the Slow Cooker:**  
A healthy dinner choice easy to make. Just combine it all and set it to cook.

Prep time: 10 min.

Cook time: 6 to 8 hours

Serves: 6 to 8 servings

### Ingredients

1 to 1 ½ pounds boneless skinless chicken breasts or chicken thighs (or mix)  
1 - 14.5 oz. can dice tomatoes  
1 cup chicken broth  
2 tsp. chili powder  
1 tsp. salt  
1 tsp. ground cumin  
1 cup rice  
1 - 15 oz. can black beans (drained and rinsed)  
1 cup frozen corn kernels (or 8 oz. canned whole kernel corn, drained)  
(Optional selection of toppings: shredded cheese, chopped cilantro, sour cream, diced avocado, salsa, hot sauce, diced green onions, shredded lettuce).



### Instructions:

1. Combine the chicken, dice tomatoes with their juices, ½ cup of chicken broth, chili powder, salt, and cumin in the slow cooker. Make sure chicken is covered, add more broth if needed. Cover and cook on low for 3 to 4 hours.
2. After 3 to 4 hours, uncover and add rice, beans, corn and remaining of chicken broth. Cover and cook for another 3 to 4 hours. In the last hour, check the rice stirring to make sure rice cooks evenly. Add more chicken broth if mixture begins to dry. When the rice is tender the cooking is done. If liquid is still left in slow cooker, uncover and cook on high until liquid evaporates.
3. Shred chicken in slow cooker or on a cutting board. Taste burrito mixture and season to taste.
4. Serve burrito bowls with optional toppings to choose from.

Enjoy.



## Recipe 3

### Whole Chicken in the Slow Cooker

**Make an entire meal in the crock pot. This easy recipe includes chicken, potatoes, and vegetables all in one. This simple and healthy rotisserie chicken meal will become one of your favorites!**

Prep time: 20 min.  
Cook time: 4 – 5 hours  
Serves: 6 servings

Ingredients:  
4 cups of a combination of potatoes, carrots, celery, and onions  
1 cup chicken broth  
6 lbs. whole chicken (giblets removed)  
1 tsp. paprika  
Salt and pepper

Instructions:  
1. Peel and quarter potatoes. Peel and chop carrots. Chop celery and onions. Place potatoes, carrots, celery and onions in the bottom of the slow cooker.  
2. Pour chicken broth in the slow cooker.  
3. Rinse chicken under cold water. Remove giblets from the cavity of the chicken. Using paper towels pat dry the chicken. Rub the paprika, salt and pepper all around the chicken.  
4. Place the chicken on top of the veggies and potatoes in the slow cooker. Cover.  
5. Cook on high for 4 hours or until internal temperature reaches 165 degrees. Serve and enjoy.



## Recipe 4

### The best crock pot roast!

**This recipe is so simple to make, you will be amazed at how tender and delicious it tastes. Packed with flavor, this 4 ingredient recipe will quickly become one of your favorites.**

Prep time: 5 min.  
Cook time: 8 hours  
Serves: 4 – 6 servings

Ingredients:  
3– 4 lb. beef roast  
1 envelope ranch dressing mix  
1 envelope Italian dressing mix  
1 envelope brown gravy mix  
½ cup of water

Instructions:  
1. Pierce the roast several times on all sides with a fork.  
2. Place the roast in the crockpot.  
3. In a small mixing bowl combine all 3 envelopes and the ½ cup of water, stir well.  
4. Pour the liquid in the crock pot over the beef roast.  
5. Cover and cook on low for 8 hours. Serve over rice or mashed potatoes. Enjoy!

# V-Day Performance Benefits Local Charities

## Students Perform Gender Inclusive Version of Controversial Stage Show

Writing and Photography by Cheryl Gibson

The S.A.G.E. (Students Advocating Gender Equality) and SIGMA (Sexual Identity and Gender Minority Advocates) clubs presented a performance of ‘The Vagina Monologues’ in the multipurpose room on February 23rd to raise awareness and start conversations about female sexuality and abuse with proceeds benefitting local charities.

The performers names are intentionally omitted from the playbill because, “they’re anonymous, representing all who identify as a woman” says volunteer Aleia Cooke as she collects entry fees and hands out programs. Inside, the stage is draped with layers of delicate soft rose, pink and beige fabric in a color scheme symbolic of the play’s topic.

The ensemble of performers are dressed in black and with bright luscious red lipstick, reading their soliloquys from vibrant red binders with the inflection and energy of their own character.

The cast includes Elise Sperry, Nak Little, Zoe Hay, Raven Dillon and Professor Janet Hagen and

Miranda Fabre who also directed. Additional performers preferred to remain anonymous. The

cast performed 18 monologues including a new piece, ‘They Beat the Boy Out of My Girl (Or So

They Tried)’. This addition brings the material more in line with societies’ growing recognition of the LGBTQ’s community who identify as feminine and allows their stories to be heard.

Miranda gained support for the production through her peers and both clubs produced it

together. The reason she says, “to get people talking and break the taboo of talking about vaginas.” When asked about the goals of the performance, she said “I just kind of wanted

people thinking about different issues, whether it be like finding your clit or sexual assault, whatever it may be.”

The Vagina Monologues is a stage show created by Eve Ensler in 1995, and is based on interviews she conducted with more than 200 women from different walks of life. The main idea is to “celebrate female sexuality and strength with humor and grace” as described by Vday.org.

Ms. Ensler no longer performs her creation. Instead, makes the play available to colleges and local groups every year, through her non-profit V-day organization, as a global activist movement with a goal of ending violence against women and girls. Performances are designed to create awareness, start conversations about sexuality and to promote a change in cultural attitudes towards rape and abuse. The event here raised money which will go to two local organizations; the Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Eastern Connecticut and the Spotlight Campaign: The Resistance.



Miranda Fabre recounting her characters story.



### Will a Change of Gun Laws Help Deter School Shootings?

Writing by George Simones Photography from stock images

School shootings are tragedies and changes need to be made, this is evident. The most recent shooting that occurred in Parkland, Florida has sparked a massive outcry from many different perspectives. It is evident that there are plenty of people who will not give up until gun laws are changed. On the other hand, there are many who believe that changing gun laws won't help deter school shootings at all. As well as a middle ground that includes many people who just don't know enough information about either side to make a decision.

People have a right to be angry. An article from everytownresearch.org gives a deeper look into the details of school shootings in the United States. "In 2013, Everytown began tracking gunfire in schools and at college and universities – public reports that a firearm was discharged inside a school building or on school or campus grounds – and over the next three years, identified 160 qualifying incidents, including fatal and nonfatal assaults, suicides, and unintentional shootings." One can only wonder what the cause of these incidents is.

Whatever people believe the cause to be, fighting over the matter is only going to make the situation more complicated. It's difficult to say if anything can truly deter tragedies like this from occurring though.

Students shouldn't have to go to school with the fear that they might be subjected to a terrible event that is out of their control. However, if the gun laws that are currently in place are changed, can we say with certainty that it will stop school shootings? If there could be a way to test these

laws for a period of time without making them set in stone and giving the impression that people will have to give their amendment away, a larger percentage would most likely be open to the idea.

A huge argument that has been emphasized is the fact that the Constitution was created in a time where gun technology was much different than today. The right to bear arms had a much different definition in the past, since the guns used back then were much different in all aspects.

This is a very sound argument and should definitely be taken into discussion on a greater scale.

Opinions on the matter of gun laws will continue to differ over and over. There is so much that can be argued from multiple perspectives and it is truly a much deeper debate than many people think. It isn't just as simple as setting stricter gun laws with the hope that it will deter mentally unstable individuals from acquiring dangerous fire arms. Even without an assault rifle, or any gun at all, a mentally unstable person with a plan can cause plenty of damage.

Additionally, it also isn't as simple as just saying that teachers and students need to do a better job of finding a mentally unstable person and diffusing the situation before it gets to the extreme level of a school shooting. It's safe to say that everyone agrees that school shootings are a terrible tragedy and change is needed, there just needs to be a middle ground that can be met which satisfies all sides.



### Should the President have the right to be on Social Media?

Writing by Katherine Collins and Abby Moran

## Pro By Abby Moran

The President needs to have some sort of presence on social media. As someone in that kind of power over the country, he needs to stay connected with as many people as possible. It's a great way to see what issues people are having and what other world leaders that may have social media are saying. The world is no longer in the days of paper, and technology is the new homing pigeon. Without it, the leader of our country would be isolated from perspectives that are just as important as notices which may appear on his desk every once in awhile.

The thoughts of everyday citizens are just as important as the thoughts that are being brought to him by advisors and such. Social media provides the opinion of regular citizens to the President in an easy manner, so that he can assess certain parts of his job. He can view what the majority are saying to see if he is being and what sort of problems are becoming more prevalent in the nation quickly.

Without being on social media, the President would have no idea about opinions others are sharing that have to do with our nation. Not knowing how his people feel about their state of living would make for a clueless leader; that simply cannot work if the nation is to function properly.

On another note, it is unfair to ban one person from being on social media. There is no one person, as a civilian, that could be banned from using social media and have that be considered just. Our president, while being slightly different from a regular civilian because of his status, should not be seen as any different in that aspect. Technically, as long as there is the freedom to speech, anybody should be able to have an opinion and voice it.

I don't necessarily agree with what sort of things our current president is saying on that social media. Whether or not the president is using it appropriately right now is a different question entirely. I feel that he does technically have the right to and should be on social media for other reasons.



# Con

## By Katherine Collins

In my opinion, President Donald J. Trump should not be on social media, as him being on social media has caused for many of issues and makes the United States looks bad. Donald Trump is one of the only presidents that have used their media by themselves without a representative to edit and post the posts.

With just a small skim of the posts, one can find many grammatical errors or weird phrasing which might confuse a lot of people who follow him. A great example of this would be “covfefe”, which was posted on May 31st at 12:06 AM in which he was trying to discuss negative press coverage, but ended up in a poor translation.

More recently, Donald Trump got himself in a controversy that led many to dislike his tweets and also showed major disrespect of the incident. On February 14th at 12:50, Donald Trump posted about the unfortunate events that followed that morning from the Majory Stoneman Douglas school shooting, stating “My prayers and condolences to the families of the victims of the terrible Florida shooting. No child, teacher or anyone else should ever feel unsafe in an American school.” This reacted to more bad than good replies, relating to the need of gun control, the hypocrisy to accepting NRA money, and the lack of enforced background checks.

Donald Trump’s religious endeavors, weird grammatical errors, and everything in between is not something that a President should be posting as it gives The United States a bad reputation.

## TRCC Nursing Students put Together Blessing Bags for a Local Homeless Shelter

Fourth semester students enrolled in the Nursing Program at Three Rivers Community College put together donations to be distributed to clients staying at the New London Homeless Hospitality Center.

Writing and Photography by Ashley Hanson and Georg Simones

In February the students enrolled in the Three Rivers Community College Nursing Program asked the community to donate basic toiletry items to be put into Blessing Bags. These bags were then scheduled to be distributed to clients at the New London Homeless Hospitality Center.

Sierra Kniskern, a student in the nursing program, lead last month’s collection for the blessing bags. Kniskern said, “during our out rotation to the hospitality center we provide care to those who struggle with addiction, battle mental illnesses, and are just down on luck”.

Fourth semester nursing student are required to participate in ‘out rotations’ where they travel to different clinics to observe registered nurses as they interact with clients. Some of the students were assigned to complete one of their rotations at the New London Homeless Hospitality Center (NLHHC).

Kniskern recalled her eye-opening experience NLHHC where she observed registered nurses schedule essential medical, dental, and behavioral health appointments for clients. The nurses also coordinated transportation for them. Kniskern said it was refreshing to observe clients receive such a crucial service.

While there are many resources available for those in need, Kniskern feels that it’s not widely marketed. She says word of mouth seems to be the only way potential clients find out about NLHHC and other area shelters.

Kniskern feels the service project this month was a success and provided an indispensable benefit to the local homeless community. She hopes for the same success with their next project in March.

Clarice Boardman, a fourth semester nursing student, will be in charge of collecting non-perishable items for the Norwich Soup Kitchen. If you’re looking for an opportunity to contribute to the cause, you can drop items off at room A216 throughout the month.







Students enrolled in the Nursing Program at TRCC have six core values they hold in high regard; critical thinking, safe and competent practice, caring, professionalism, communication, and holistic care.



Hands-on training is part of the education students enrolled in the Nursing Program at TRCC receive in their fourth semester.

Photography by George Simones



Items for Blessing Bags were collected in February and are being prepared for distribution at the New London Homeless Hospitality Center.

Photo Courtesy of Sierra Kniskern



## Marvel's anticipated movie hits with an enormous blockbuster

Writing by Mark Dunning

Black Panther, directed by Ryan Coogler, was one of the most highly-anticipated movies from Marvel Studios to release ever since its first trailer dropped in mid 2017. The hype was growing rapidly throughout last year and early 2018. Ever since the Wakanda superhero made his debut appearance in Captain America: Civil War, fans and critics were anxious to see how a Black Panther solo film would live up to its expectations. The film released on February 18th, and the expectations definitely delivered.

So far, the film has been the third-highest grossing Marvel Cinematic Universe release of all time, earning \$700 million worldwide and also \$410 million in North America. Not only has the film succeeded financially, but it also has been receiving high praises from critics and audiences alike. Black Panther not only redefines the quality of what a great superhero movie needs to be, but also symbolizes important messages that pertain to Black-American and African culture, showcasing certain issues that the film tackles.

Black Panther takes place after the events of Captain America: Civil War, where T'Challa, played by Chadwick Boseman, returns home to Wakanda, an African country where the Wakandans use the material called Vibranium for resources; They develop themselves in advance technologies while isolating themselves from the world by posing as a third world country. T'Challa comes home to claim the throne as king of Wakanda after his father's passing. However T'Challa soon finds that he is challenged for the throne by factions within his own country. The two villains Killmonger, played by Michael B. Jordan, and Ulysses Klaue, played by Andy Serkis, have the motive of destroying Wakanda, and it is up T'Challa to stop the villains from having Wakanda in the wrong hands.

Black Panther is an astonishing film from the opening of the first scene to the credits. Not only is it a long-overdue embrace of diversity and representation, meaning that the film represents a predominantly black cast and it changes the dynamic of the representation of black diversity in Hollywood; it is a film that actually has something to say and is able to balance that without stepping away from the superhero dynamics that which make the franchise work. Of course the film has the standard Marvel film tropes like funny moments, action-packed scenes and climatic twists, but this film in particular had something unique about its whole presentation.

In past films like Fruitvale Station and Creed, Coogler has been able to show emotion and character work to the foreground. He does this in Black Panther as well. For instance, T'Challa is still coping with his father's death, struggling to deal with Wakanda's usual traditions and duties, and realizing that he may need to change those perspectives if he want to carry a good legacy as king. This method also shows with the protagonist Killmonger and his motive to take over the country and brings his ideologies to Wakanda.

The film has a stellar supporting cast, each character having their moments; such as Letitia Wright, who plays Shuri as Black Panther's younger sister, who had comical moments to keep the film on a light note. Lupita Nyong'o also had big moments in the film being Black Panther's love interest, showing her character as strong-minded, and The Walking Dead's Danai Gurira, who's fight scene were amazing.

One actor that stole the show in the film, was none other than Michael B. Jordan as Killmonger. Jordan makes the character have many layers within him, such as grief, anguish, and fury. As the film progresses, you see the character have a level of humanity which is very rare to see in many Marvel film villains. Normally, the villains in each MCU film is usually the typical mad men aiming for the same world-ending goals, it was not that way for Jordan's character. Killmonger's motives are relatable and emotionally resonant. That's what makes him an unique character in the film.

Black Panther is a film that is a revolutionary step forward, not only for black superheroes but also other superhero movies overall. It is a film that changes the mold of what a superhero movie is supposed to be. With amazing character dialogue, action scenes, and dramatic twists, Black Panther lives up the hype of being one of the most highly anticipated movies of the year and it gives a narrative of what future superhero movies are aspiring to be in the near future.







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